

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing below of the claims presents in amended form claims 1 through 14 that were presented in the international phase of the corresponding PCT application. The following claims replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for supporting vertically hanging electrical resistance elements (4) for heating furnaces or ovens in industrial operation operations, wherein each resistance element ~~comprises~~ includes a plurality of current-conducting legs (6) that ~~run downwards and upwards a number of times, wherein the element includes along its length a number of~~ extend upwardly and downwardly, said method comprising the steps of: providing a plurality of ceramic support discs (8) that are provided with each include a plurality of through-penetrating holes through which respective resistance element legs extend, wherein the upper part parts of said element ~~merges at least two resistance element legs merge~~ with terminals (5a, 5b) that are connected to a source of electric current, ~~and wherein said element is supported~~ ; vertically supporting the resistance elements by at least one of the uppermost discs, ~~characterised in that the ceramic support disc; positioning an uppermost ceramic support disc or the uppermost ceramic discs (10, 11) supporting said element is/are placed in the~~ laterally adjacent insulation (3) ~~of the at a furnace roof (2) and above the under side (15) an underside of said the roof; and in that~~

~~interconnecting legs (6) of the resistance element are caused to be short circuited at a location slightly or somewhat beneath below the underside (15) of said the roof with the aid of short circuiting conductive connecting plates (7).~~

Claim 2 (currently amended): A method ~~according to Claim~~ in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterised by including the step of forming the legs (6) from FeCrAl.~~

Claim 3 (currently amended): A method ~~according to Claim~~ in accordance with claim 1 or 2, ~~characterised by , including the step of forming the at least one ceramic discs (8, 10, 11) support disc from at least one of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, SiO<sub>2</sub> or and mixtures thereof.~~

Claim 4 (currently amended): A method ~~according to Claim~~ in accordance with claim 3, ~~characterised by placing the supportive including the step of positioning ceramic support discs (10, 11) at two levels.~~

Claim 5 (currently amended): A method ~~according to any one of the preceding Claims, characterised by placing the supportive in accordance with claim 1, including the step of positioning ceramic support discs (10, 11) above the an upper side of the furnace roof (2).~~

Claim 6 (currently amended): An arrangement for supporting vertically hanging electrical resistance elements (4) for heating furnaces or ovens in industrial ~~operation~~ operations, wherein each resistance element ~~comprises~~ includes a plurality of current-conducting legs (6) that ~~run downwards and upwards a number of times, wherein the~~ extend upwardly and downwardly, said arrangement comprising: a plurality of resistance element (4) ~~includes along its length legs; a number~~ plurality of ceramic support discs (8) that ~~are provided with each include a plurality of~~ through-penetrating holes through which respective resistance element legs extend, wherein the upper part parts of said element ~~merges at least two resistance element legs merge~~ with terminals (5a, 5b) that are connected to a source of electric current, ~~and wherein said element is supported by ; at least one of the uppermost of said ceramic support discs ; characterised in that the uppermost ceramic disc or the uppermost ceramic discs (10, 11) supporting said element is/are placed in the~~ is positioned laterally adjacent insulation (3) of the roof of the at a furnace (2) roof and above the under side (15) an underside of said the roof; and ~~in that relevant wherein~~ legs (6) of the resistance element are ~~caused to be short-circuited~~ interconnected at a location ~~slightly or somewhat beneath~~ below the underside (15) of said the roof with the aid of short-circuiting conductive connecting plates (7).

Claim 7 (currently amended): An arrangement ~~according to Claim~~ in accordance with claim 6, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the legs (6) are ~~comprised~~ of formed from FeCrAl.

Claim 8 (currently amended): An arrangement ~~according to Claim~~ in accordance with claim 6 or 7, characterised in that ~~, wherein~~ the ceramic support discs ~~(8, 10, 11)~~ are ~~comprised of~~ formed from one of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{SiO}_2$ , ~~or~~ and mixtures thereof.

Claim 9 (currently amended): An arrangement ~~according to Claim~~ in accordance with claim 6, 7 or 8, characterised in that ~~the supportive wherein~~ ceramic support discs ~~(10, 11)~~ are ~~situated~~ positioned at two levels.

Claim 10 (currently amended): An arrangement ~~according to Claim~~ in accordance with claim 6, 7, 8 or 9, characterised in that ~~the supportive wherein~~ the at least one ceramic discs ~~(10, 11)~~ are support disc is located above the ~~an~~ upper side of the furnace roof ~~(2)~~.